

JOHN HERSEY HIGH SCHOOL - PRIVATE VOICE LESSON STAFF

FRANCESCA DeTOGNE

Francesca DeTogne, or "Cessie" as she is affectionately known, graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in 2003 with a degree in Vocal Performance. Since that time, she has worked as a middle-school music teacher and choral director, a vocal director and accompanist for children's musicals, and a voice teacher-- not to mention the choreographer for the illustrious adult show choir "Stage Fright". She also has over fourteen years of experience working with children, and finds that experience invaluable when explaining vocal concepts to young singers! Her background is in both classical singing and musical theater, and her philosophy is all-encompassing: the basic techniques of singing are the same, no matter what style of music you choose to perform. Love what you sing, do it with all of your heart, and enjoy what you do-- and everything else will fall into place. She looks forward to starting her fifth year in JHHS's choir family!

NICK FALCO

Nick Falco is a graduate of Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, IL with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music. His focus of study was in vocal performance and music education. He's studied vocal techniques and opera in Italy, and is in his eleventh season as a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Chorus. Nick has also performed as a member of the Chicago Symphony Singers and The Grant Park Symphony Chorus and is also one of the founding members of the a cappella vocal jazz ensemble, An Octave Above which records and performs locally throughout Chicagoland. In 2007 Nick won a special award for his arrangement of "Tico Tico" at the national a cappella competition Harmony Sweepstakes, and continues to arrange for An Octave Above. He has been teaching high school voice for the past 12 years at John Hersey High School and is also a private teacher at Wheeling and Buffalo Grove High Schools. Nick has a very strong love for music of all kinds. His lessons cover classical art songs and arias, musical theater, jazz, and pop/rock. He feels music is a diverse and constantly growing and changing subject that covers the entire span of world history through art, style and culture. He feels it is highly important to know the past as well as the present and to never forget the many different musical styles that have developed from ancient times to what's current in our present culture. His long term goals as a teacher are to teach his students to identify within themselves the different practices of singing in different styles, and to educate diversity in vocal music to help his students find which musical genres voices are best suited for. In turn, he hopes that they will learn to appreciate the incredible diversity music has to offer with an opened mind and ear. As a vocal teacher he will work on skills to improve range, technique, foreign language diction, performance styles, breathing, and how to use your vocal instrument properly. He will also help students to prepare for contests, auditions, and/or concerts. Nick feels as a singer that it's always important to be listened to and critiqued in order to improve as a singer, and continues to study to this day.

JUDY MOE

Before retiring in June 2007, Mrs. Moe was the head of the music department and served as a choral director at Glenbrook North High School in Northbrook, Illinois for 34 years. Currently she is an adjunct professor of music education at the Chicago College of Performing Arts, Roosevelt University and also teaches voice at Hersey High School in Arlington Heights.

After attending Valparaiso University in Indiana, Mrs. Moe went on to receive a Bachelors Degree in Voice and Music Education and also a Masters Degree in voice from Roosevelt University.

Her skills as an educator and singer are evident in the many awards and honors that she has received. Mrs. Moe is the 2011 recipient of the Illinois American Choral Director's Association Harold Decker Award for excellence in and contribution to choral music in the state of Illinois. Other awards include the prestigious Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Mary Hoffman Award for Excellence in Teaching awarded by the Illinois Music Educators Association, the Paul Harris Fellow from the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, the first Outstanding Alumni Award in 2003 from Luther North High School. Mrs. Moe was twice awarded the Outstanding Service Award at Glenbrook North High School. She has been invited on many occasions to work as a clinician and guest director for various festivals including Guest Director for the Illinois Music Educator's All-State Choir, the Illinois American Choral Directors Association Honor Choir and numerous district festivals throughout the Midwest.

COLLEEN TIMLER

Colleen Timler is a vocalist and private voice teacher from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. She received her degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and moved to the Chicago area in 1994.

Ms. Timler has been teaching private voice lessons in Chicago area high schools for over 14 years and the past seven years has been a part of Prospect High School's private staff as well as has assisted with their showchoirs and as Vocal Director of the musicals. In addition, she joined the Hersey Choral staff as the Director of Ladies First, a position she held for the past four years, as well as giving private lessons.

As a performer, Ms. Timler has been featured at some of the finest clubs in Chicago, including the Metropole, Jazz Showcase, Pops for Champagne and Park West.

PATRICIA TOLEDO

Patricia Toledo holds a M.M. in vocal performance from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a B.M. in vocal performance from Lawrence University Conservatory of Music, WI. She is an active recitalist and has performed both musical theatre and operatic roles including the title role in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* with Opera Ft. Collins, Eleanor of Aquitaine in the one-woman opera *Flower and Hawk* with Long Leaf Opera, the Virgin Mary in *The Wise Women*, Papagena in *The Magic Flute*, Minnie in *The Match Maker*, Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Polly Peachum in *Three Penny Opera* and Catherine in *Pippin*. She has also been an ensemble member with Greensboro Opera, Triangle Opera, Light Opera Works, Madison Symphony Chorus, and Madison Opera's Opera in the Park.

Ms. Toledo has been teaching voice privately at John Hersey High School since 2005 and is an Instructor in voice at Harper College. She is an active member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and was selected as one of twelve interns for the national competitive NATS 2011 Intern Program. Ms. Toledo has coached and taught members of touring productions of *Shrek* and *Billy Elliot*, *The American Girl Show* (Chicago), IMEA Choirs, local jazz clubs, *Battle of the Bands* (Schaumburg and state level), as well as leads in several musicals in the greater Chicagoland area. Her students have also made finals, semifinals and placed in the Chicago NATS Musical Theatre Auditions, District IL NATS Classical Auditions, and Northern Illinois NATS Classical Auditions respectively. Aside from teaching, Ms. Toledo is a mom, wife, and training assistant in Taekwondo.

PRIVATE TEACHERS

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